

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT:MEETING WITH GROMYKO

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SONNENFELDT AND STABLER

1. IN YOUR MEETING WITH GROMYKO PRIOR TO YOUR DEPARTURE FOR THE US, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT THE SECRETARY IS LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING WITH HIM DURING GROMYKO'S VISIT TO THE US FOR THE UNGA. ANY INFORMATION ON GROMYKO'S TRAVEL PLANS WOULD OF COURSE BE WELCOME.

2. AT YOUR DISCRETION, YOU MAY TOUCH ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A. CYPRUS. WE UNDERSTAND SOVIET CONCERN OVER CYPRUS, A CONCERN REFLECTED IN THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT STATEMENT OF AUGUST 22. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, ACCEPT THE SOVIET VIEW OF NATO RESPONSIBILITY FOR CYPRUS EVENTS NOR DO WE BELIEVE THE SITUATION WARRANTS THE ABANDONMENT OF THE PRESENT FORUM FOR NEGOTIATIONS. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT

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REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES, PRESIDENT

CLERIDES AND VICE PRESIDENT DENKTASH, WERE ABLE TO MEET AGAIN AFTER A PERIOD OF SOME TIME. WE STILL SUPPORT THE LONDON-ZURICH AGREEMENTS OF 1960 AND, THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE BEST WAY TO ARRIVE AT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IS TO HAVE THE PARTIES TO THAT PROBLEM

CONTINUE THEIR NEGOTIATIONS. OUR PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT IS THAT THE CREATION OF ANOTHER FORUM FOR NEGOTIATIONS WOULD NOT BE USEFUL.

B. MIDDLE EAST. CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE MIDDLE EASTERN PARTIES TO THE NEGOTIATION ARE CONTINUING. THERE HAVE BEEN, AS THE SOVIETS KNOW, NUMEROUS MEETINGS AMONG THE ARABS, AND WE HAVE HAD FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON, PRIME MINISTER RIFAI AND KING HUSSEIN, FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY, AND FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM IN WASHINGTON. THESE TALKS WERE PLANNED SO AS TO SHARPEN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE POSITIONS OF EACH PARTY. NO DECISIONS ON HOW TO PROCEED WERE SOUGHT DURING THESE MEETINGS, AND WE HAVE NOT DEVELOPED A POSITION OF OUR OWN. PRIME MINISTER RABIN WILL VISIT WASHINGTON IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AS A CONTINUATION OF THIS PROCESS. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE DECISIONS CONCERNING THE NEXT STEPS SHOULD ARISE FROM A CONSENSUS AMONG THE PARTIES. THOSE DECISIONS WILL, OF COURSE, INCLUDE A JUDGMENT ON THE APPROPRIATE TIME FOR RECONVENING THE GENEVA TALKS.

3. FOLLOWING IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY:

A. MFN STATUS. PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING LEGISLATION WITH SENATORS JACKSON, JAVITS AND RIBICOFF. PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE BUT FURTHER CONTACT WITH SENATORS WILL BE REQUIRED AFTER LABOR DAY.

B. CSCE. WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE TIME URGENCY OF THIS QUESTION FROM THE SOVIET POINT OF VIEW HAS DISSIPATED. THE PLAY IS NOW IN NATO, WHERE WE AND OUR ALLIES ARE SEEKING A UNIFIED VIEW OF WHAT IS DESIRABLE AND ATTAINABLE AS A PRICE FOR SUMMIT-LEVEL THIRD PHASE. KISSINGER

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